

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image displaying system which has an image displaying device to display an image and a plurality of terminals to store image data for said image, said image displaying device and said terminals being connected with each other through a network that permits their two-way communications, and said image displaying device displaying an image in response to said image data transmitted thereto from each of said terminals, wherein said image displaying device comprises a communication means at the displaying device side to perform two-way communications with said terminals, an image data acquisition controlling means to acquire image data from a relevant terminal in such a way that when it acquires image data from a relevant terminal by controlling said communication means at the displaying device side, it instructs other terminals to suspend transmission, thereby suspending transmission of image data, and an image displaying means to display an image in response to the image data acquired as the result of control by said image data acquisition controlling means, and each of said terminals comprises a storage medium to store said image data, a communication means at the terminal side to perform two-way communications with said image displaying device, and an image data output controlling means which controls said communication means at the terminal side in such a way that the terminal suspends output of image data when it is instructed to suspend transmission by said image data ac-

quisition controlling means and the terminal outputs image data when it is not instructed to suspend transmission.

2. An image displaying device which is connected with a plurality of terminals to store image data through a network that permits two-way communications and which acquires image data from each terminal, thereby displaying an image, said image displaying device comprising a communication means at the displaying device side which performs two-way communications with each of said terminals, an image data acquisition controlling means to acquire image data from a relevant terminal in such a way that when it acquires image data from a relevant terminal by controlling said communication means at the displaying device side, it instructs other terminals to suspend transmission, thereby suspending transmission of image data, and an image displaying means to display an image in response to the image data acquired as the result of control by said image data acquisition controlling means.

3. The image displaying device as defined in Claim 2, which further comprises a mode switching means to switch the split display mode to and from the sequential display mode (the former displaying on divided sections of one screen more than one image based on individual image data output from a plurality of terminals, and the latter displaying on a full screen one image based on individual image data output from a plurality of terminals and sequentially switching the transmission terminals), so that, in

the split display mode, the image displaying means displays images based on said individual image data on the divided sections of one screen, and in the sequential display mode, the image displaying means displays one image based on said individual image data on the full screen.

4. The image displaying device as defined in Claim 3, in which the image data acquisition controlling means controls, in the split display mode, the communication means at the display device side in such a way that it designates sequentially each terminal which stores image data for images to be displayed on the divided sections as the relevant terminal and sequentially acquires image data for images to be displayed on the divided sections.

5. The image displaying device as defined in Claim 3, in which the image data acquisition controlling means controls, in the split display mode, the communication means at the display device side in such a way that it designates a specific terminal as the relevant terminal until the transmission terminal is switched and continue to acquire image data.

6. An image data outputting device which is connected through a network capable of two-way communications with an image displaying device to display an image and which outputs image data to said image displaying device, thereby causing it to display an image, said image data outputting device comprising a storage medium to store said image data, a communication means at the terminal side to perform two-

way communications with said image displaying device, and an image output controlling means to control said communication means at the terminal side in such a way that it acquires an instruction to suspend transmission which is output from said image displaying device and judges whether or not it is an instruction to suspend transmission addressed to itself, and it suspends the outputting of image data if the terminal corresponds to the one to which an instruction to suspend transmission has been given, or it outputs the stored image data if the terminal does not correspond to the one to which an instruction to suspend transmission has been given.

7. An image displaying method for causing each terminal to output image data to an image displaying device to display an image, thereby displaying an image, said image displaying device being connected through a network capable of two-way communications with a plurality of terminals to store image data for images to be displayed, said image displaying method is characterized in that an instruction to suspend transmission of image data is issued to other terminals when image data are acquired from a relevant terminal, the outputting of image data is suspended in the terminal to which an instruction to suspend transmission has been issued, the outputting of image data is continued in the relevant terminal to which no instruction to suspend transmission has been issued, and the image displaying device acquires image data from the relevant terminal,

thereby displaying images based on the thus acquired image data.

8. An image displaying program to control an image displaying device which is connected through a network capable of two-way communications with a plurality of terminals to store image data and which acquires image data from each terminal, thereby displaying images, said image displaying program allowing a computer to realize a communication function at the display device side which performs two-way communications with said terminals, an image data acquisition controlling function which, when acquiring image data from a relevant terminal by controlling said communication function at the display device side, instructs other terminals to suspend transmission, thereby suspending transmission of image data, and acquires image data from the relevant terminal, and an image displaying function to display images based on the image data acquired by control by the image data acquisition controlling function.

9. An image data outputting program to control a terminal which is connected through a network capable of two-way communications with an image displaying device to display an image and which outputs image data to said image displaying device, thereby causing it to display an image, said image data outputting program allowing a computer to realize a storage medium to store said image data, a communication function at the terminal side which performs two-

way communications with said image displaying device, and an image data output controlling function which controls said communication terminal at the terminal side in such a way that the terminal acquires an instruction to suspend transmission which is output from said image displaying device, thereby judging whether or not the instruction is the one which is addressed to itself, and suspends the outputting of image data if the terminal corresponds to the one to which the instruction to suspend transmission is addressed and continues the outputting of the stored image data if the terminal does not correspond to the one to which the instruction to suspend transmission is addressed.

10. An image displaying system having a plurality of computers and a projector which are connected with each other through a network, and causing each computer to output image data to the projector for display, in which said projector has a network interface at the projector side which sends and receives packet data through said network, an image data receiving module to acquire image data which is output from said computer through said network interface at the projector side, a hard disk to record the thus acquired image data, a display unit to display an image based on the recorded image data, and a control unit at the projector side which controls the network interface at the projector side, the image receiving module, the hard disk, and the display unit; the controller at the projector side performs control in such a way that when it acquires image

data from a specific computer, it instructs other computers to suspend transmission, thereby causing them to suspend transmission of image data, and acquires image data from said specific computer; each of said computers has a network interface at the computer side which sends and receives packet data through the network to which it is connected, a hard disk as a storing medium capable of storing image data, an image transmitting module which acquires image data from this hard disk and outputs them to the projector on the network through the network interface at the computer side, and a controller at the computer side which controls the network interface at the computer side, the image transmitting module, and the hard disk, and the image transmitting module is controlled such that the computer suspends the outputting of image data if it corresponds to the one which is instructed to suspend transmission by the controller at the projector side and the computer continues the outputting of image data if it does not correspond to the one which is instructed to suspend transmission.